

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
DALLAS DIVISION**

CHRISTOPHER ARMSTRONG, §
#426223, §
PLAINTIFF, §
§
V. § **CIVIL CASE NO. 3:24-CV-155-K-BK**
§
SHERIFF OF ELLIS COUNTY, §
DEFENDANT. §

**FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATION
OF THE UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

Pursuant to [28 U.S.C. § 636\(b\)](#) and *Special Order 3*, this *pro se* case was referred to the United States magistrate judge for case management, including the issuance of findings and a recommended disposition. Upon review, Plaintiff's remaining claims should be **DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE** for failure to comply with a court order and for want of prosecution.

On March 21, 2024, the Court issued a deficiency order advising Plaintiff of the obligations to (1) file a civil rights complaint on the court-approved form, asserting only his individual claims about mail tampering and denial of access to the law library, and (2) pay the \$405 filing fee or file a request to proceed *in forma pauperis*. Doc. 19. *See also* N.D. Tex. Misc. Ord. 14 (requiring inmates to move to proceed *in forma pauperis* on the court-approved forms). The deadline for Plaintiff's response was April 22, 2024. However, Plaintiff has not responded to the Court's deficiency order, nor has he sought an extension of time to do so.

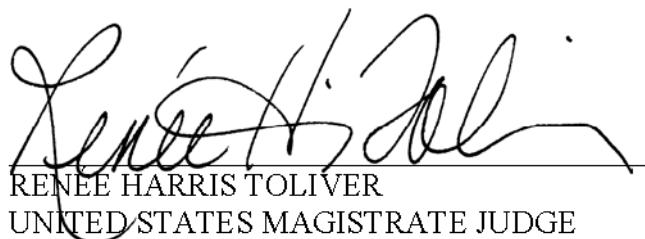
Rule 41(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure allows a court to dismiss an action *sua sponte* for failure to prosecute or for failure to comply with the federal rules or any court order.

Larson v. Scott, 157 F.3d 1030, 1031 (5th Cir. 1998). “This authority flows from the court’s

inherent power to control its docket and prevent undue delays in the disposition of pending cases.” *Boudwin v. Graystone Ins. Co., Ltd.*, 756 F.2d 399, 401 (5th Cir. 1985) (citing *Link v. Wabash R.R. Co.*, 370 U.S. 626 (1962)).

Plaintiff has been given ample opportunity to respond to the Court’s deficiency order. He has impliedly refused or declined to do so. Therefore, Plaintiff’s remaining claims should be **DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE** for failure to comply with a court order and for lack of prosecution. *See FED. R. CIV. P. 41(b)* (an involuntary dismissal “operates as an adjudication on the merits,” unless otherwise specified). Upon dismissal, this case should be closed.

SO RECOMMENDED on May 21, 2024.



RENEE HARRIS TOLIVER
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR SERVICE AND
NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL/OBJECT**

A copy of this report and recommendation will be served on all parties in the manner provided by law. Any party who objects to any part of this report and recommendation must file specific written objections within 14 days after being served with a copy. *See 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1); FED. R. CIV. P. 72(b)*. An objection must identify the finding or recommendation to which objection is made, the basis for the objection, and the place in the magistrate judge’s report and recommendation the disputed determination is found. An objection that merely incorporates by reference or refers to the briefing before the magistrate judge is not specific. Failure to file specific written objections will bar the aggrieved party from appealing the factual findings and legal conclusions of the magistrate judge that are accepted or adopted by the district court, except upon grounds of plain error. *See Douglass v. United Servs. Auto. Ass’n*, 79 F.3d 1415, 1417 (5th Cir. 1996), modified by statute on other grounds, 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1) (extending the time to file objections to 14 days).